

2007 Western Australia at a glance

Western Australia had an estimated population of 2 050 884 in June 2006. This accounts for less than 10% of Australia’s population, although Western Australia has the largest land area (2 532 400sq km) of any Australian State or Territory.

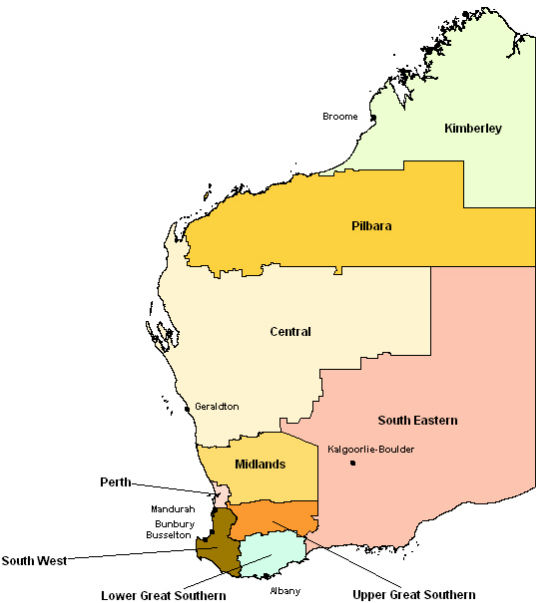
Western Australia has a coastline of 12 500km, accounting for 34% of Australia’s total coastline.

The State capital is Perth, founded on 12 August 1829. In June 2006 the estimated population of the Perth Statistical Division was 1 507 949.

This brochure provides a snapshot of Western Australia; more detail can be found in the variety of publications released by the ABS.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA IN RELATION TO AUSTRALIA

	% of Australian total
Area	32.9
Coastline	34.0
Demography	
Estimated Resident Population (June 2006)	9.9
Labour Force (Original Figures)	
Employed persons (November 2006)	10.5
Unemployed persons (November 2006)	8.1
International Trade	
Imports (2005–06)	11.4
Exports (2005–06)	31.4



ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION (30 JUNE)

	2005	2006
	'000	'000
Males	1 007.8	1 029.7
Females	1 002.3	1 021.2
Persons	2 010.1	2 050.9
under 15 years	399.2	404.3
15–19	145.1	146.5
20–59	1 137.7	1 161.0
60–64	90.4	94.0
65 and over	237.5	245.0
WA Statistical Divisions		
Perth	1 477.8	1 507.9
South West	219.8	228.0
Lower Great Southern	53.7	55.3
Upper Great Southern	17.8	17.6
Midlands	52.4	52.2
South Eastern	53.7	53.7
Central	59.9	60.2
Pilbara	39.3	40.1
Kimberley	35.7	35.9
Off-Shore Areas & Migratory	—	—
Total WA	2 010.1	2050.9
Major Urban Centres		
Perth	1 270.5	na
Broome	12.5	na
Bunbury	51.6	na
Geraldton	25.9	na
Kalgoorlie-Boulder	28.5	na
Mandurah	65.2	na
Albany	24.8	na

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS (AUGUST)¹

	2005	2006
	\$	\$
Males	1 018.7	1 068.3
Females	563.0	593.6
Persons	803.2	844.0

¹Total earnings, Trend.

DEMOGRAPHY

	2005 '000	2006 '000
Live Births registered	25.3	26.3
Deaths registered	11.2	11.3
Marriages registered	10.6	9.0
Divorces granted	4.3	5.3
Crude rate (per 1,000 persons) ¹		
Births	12.8	13.1
Deaths	5.7	5.6
Marriages	5.3	4.5
Divorces	2.2	2.6

¹ Based on mean Estimated Resident Population.

EDUCATION

	2004 no.	2005 no.
Students		
Government	229 766	228 817
Non-Government	106 300	109 483
Schools		
Government	775	777
Non-Government	289	291

LABOUR MARKET¹

	2005 '000	2006 '000
Total Labour Force, November	1 099.4	1 113.4
Employed persons	1 054.8	1 075.5
Unemployed persons	44.5	37.9
	%	%
Unemployment rate (November)	4.1	3.4

¹ Trend.

INDUSTRY OF EMPLOYED PERSONS (NOVEMBER)

	2005 '000	2006 '000
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	57	42
Mining	53	53
Manufacturing	96	98
Electricity, gas & water supply	7	12
Construction	100	115
Wholesale and retail trade	190	200
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	44	45
Transport and storage	49	40
Communication services	16	14
Finance, insurance, property & business	150	157
Government administration and defence	51	54
Education	73	74
Health and community services	104	100
Culture, recreation & personal services	66	76

PERSONS ATTENDING CULTURAL VENUES AND EVENTS¹

	2005–06 %
Art galleries	22.8
Museums	22.2
Zoological parks and aquariums	43.4
Botanic gardens	33.4
Libraries	36.7
Classical music concerts	10.8
Popular music concerts	30.8
Theatre performances	16.8
Dance performances	9.7
Musicals and operas	14.8
Other performing arts	17.6
Cinemas	66.6
At least one venue or event	87.6

¹ As a proportion of the Total WA population aged 15 years and over.

HOUSEHOLD USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

	2004–05	2005–06
	'000	'000
Number of households with home internet access ¹	457	484
Number of households with no home internet access	332	301
Number of households with broadband internet	329	241
Number of households with dial up internet	118	234

¹ The number of "Households with home internet access" includes those who stated they had both Dial up and Broadband and those who did not know what type of access they had.

VICTIMS OF RECORDED CRIME

	2004	2005
	no.	no.
Homicide and related offences		
Murder	37	20
Attempted murder	28	23
Manslaughter	6	5
Driving causing death	46	17
Total homicide and related offences	117	65
Assault	18 272	20 733
Sexual assault	1 643	2 130
Kidnapping/abduction	28	23
Robbery		
Armed robbery	511	768
Unarmed robbery	1 289	1 036
Total robbery	1 800	1 804
Blackmail/extortion	73	110
Unlawful entry with intent		
Involving the taking of property	30 451	28 347
Other	14 404	13 149
Total unlawful entry with intent	44 855	41 496
Motor vehicle theft	7 805	7 577
Other theft	79 184	77 452

economy

STATE ACCOUNTS (JUNE)¹

	2005 \$m	2006 \$m
State Final Demand	91 916	101 904
Gross State Product	102 837	107 910

¹ Reference year for chain volume measures is 2003–04.

HOUSE PRICE INDEX (DECEMBER)¹

	2005 %	2006 %
Established House	22.8	36.9
Project home	16.7	12.1

¹ From corresponding quarter of previous year.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX^{1 2}

	2003–04 %	2004–05 %	2005–06 %
Food	2.2	2.7	4.7
Alcohol and tobacco	3.1	3.2	3.3
Clothing and footwear	–0.7	–2.8	–2.6
Housing	5.7	7.0	9.0
Household contents and services	–0.1	–0.8	1.7
Health	5.7	5.1	4.1
Transportation	0.6	2.9	5.9
Communication	1.4	1.0	–1.5
Recreation	–2.5	1.1	2.1
Education	4.3	5.3	6.1
Financial and insurance services ³	na	na	0.4
All groups	2.0	3.2	4.2

¹ Percentage change (from previous year, annual average).

² Unless otherwise specified, base of index: 1989–90 = 100.0.

³ Base of index: June quarter 2005 = 100.0.

RETAIL TURNOVER (JUNE)

	2005 \$ m	2006 \$ m
Original	1 676.0	1 816.4
Seasonally Adjusted	1 743.4	1 882.6
Trend	1 734.1	1 886.6

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

	2004–05	2005–06
	\$m	\$m
Imports	14 157	19 089
Exports	38 835	47 910
Imports from:		
U.S.A.	1 573	2 111
Japan	1 554	2 087
Indonesia	681	1 155
Korea, Republic of	351	1 084
Exports to:		
Japan	8 539	10 964
China	6 586	9 832
Korea, Republic of	3 197	4 138
United Kingdom	1 566	3 374
Major commodities exported:		
Iron Ore	8 019	12 713
Gold bullion	5 616	7 182
Petroleum and petroleum products	5 637	5 877
Wheat	1 748	1 615
Wool	490	492

JOB VACANCIES (MAY QUARTER)

	2005	2006
	'000	'000
Private sector	13.2	19.7
Public sector	1.3	1.5
Total	14.5	21.2

industry

BUILDING

		2004–05	2005–06
New residential buildings			
Approved	no.	23 974	25 641
Completed	no.	19 238	21 517
Value of new residential buildings			
Approved	\$m	4 091	5 039
Completed	\$m	3 094	3 807
Total value of buildings			
Approved	\$m	6 412	7 480
Completed	\$m	4 907	5 776

AGRICULTURE

		2003–04	2004–05
Agricultural establishments			
No. of establishments	no.	11 692	11 745
Area of farms	'000 ha	101 184	104 646
Livestock			
Sheep and lambs	'000	25 063	25 592
Meat cattle and calves	'000	1 962	2 011
Milk cattle and calves	'000	133	116
Production			
Whole milk	megalitres	403	396
Eggs	'000 dozen	19 839	16 366
Beef and veal	'000 tonnes	117	131
Mutton and lamb	'000 tonnes	84	93
Pig meat	'000 tonnes	45	44
Wool	'000 tonnes	118 057	107 795
Wheat for grain	'000 tonnes	11 070	8 619

TOURISM

	2004–05	2005–06
	no.	no.
Residents departing short term	531 698	562 290
Short-term overseas visitors arriving	500 117	498 622
	%	%
Short-term arrivals - country of origin by air on holiday		
UK and Ireland	23.2	26.0
Rest of Europe	12.6	13.7
Singapore	19.4	16.5
Japan	12.7	11.8
Malaysia	10.4	8.8
Indonesia	3.2	3.2
New Zealand	4.9	5.0
Thailand	2.2	1.9
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	2.4	2.6
United States of America	1.8	2.1
South Africa	1.3	1.8
Total	100.0	100.0

MOTOR VEHICLES

	2004–05	2005–06
	no.	no.
New Motor Vehicle Sales		
Passenger vehicles	55 957	60 426
Sports utility vehicle	18 273	20 669
Other vehicles	20 970	24 259
Total Vehicles Sales	95 200	105 354

MINING

		2004–05	2005–06
Production			
Iron ore	'000 tonnes	246 240	258 394
Gold	tonnes	173	165
Diamonds	'000 carats	32 446	25 339
Crude oil	megalitres	16 997	15 856
Natural gas	million m ³	24 582	25 887

environment

CLIMATE

	Mean daily temperature - 2006				Mean annual rainfal
	January		July		
	Max (°C)	Min (°C)	Max (°C)	Min (°C)	(mm)
Perth (Metro)	28.8	17.0	18.8	6.5	467
Albany	20.5	15.3	17.0	8.6	655
Broome	31.7	25.1	27.6	11.3	1032
Esperance	23.5	15.4	17.1	7.9	472
Kalgoorlie/Boulder	32.0	18.4	17.4	4.9	190
Port Hedland	35.5	25.8	26.9	10.0	449

Source: Bureau of Meteorology 2006, Perth, <<http://www.bom.gov.au>>.

WASTE ITEMS RECYCLED AND/OR REUSED BY HOUSEHOLDS (MARCH)¹

	2003 %	2006 %
Paper/cardboard/newspapers	81.7	85.4
Glass	75.3	79.8
Aluminium Cans	70.7	71.4
Steel cans	54.9	55.5
Plastic bottles	75.5	80.4
Plastic bags	85.6	89.7
Motor oil	10.7	13.3
Kitchen or food waste	46.5	46.0
Garden waste	50.3	56.9
Old clothing or rags	82.2	85.9
Neither recycling nor reusing any waste item listed above	3.4	0.9

¹ Percentages (%) calculated against total number of households in Western Australia.

For more information...

The WA Office of the ABS produces a quarterly publication, Western Australian Statistical Indicators (ABS cat. no. 1367.5), which provides a comprehensive overview of recent developments in the state economy. Each issue contains a series of statistical tables covering: state accounts; prices; consumption; investment and finance; construction; international trade; mining and energy; agriculture; tourism; the labour market; population; and crime. In addition, each release includes feature articles on issues of economic and social importance to Western Australia. The National Regional Profile (NRP) presents a brief statistical summary of key economic and social information for various levels of the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC). It includes data from a variety of ABS and non-ABS sources. Broad indicators include Estimated Resident Population, some Census data, Births and Deaths, Unemployment, Income Support Customers, Taxable Income, Building Approvals, Motor Vehicle Sales and Agriculture. The NRP for Western Australia can be accessed through the ABS website at <www.abs.gov.au>.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ABS publications draw extensively on information provided by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated; without it the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would be unavailable for use by the community. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED

ABS - Australian Bureau of Statistics
mm - millimetres
C - degrees Celsius
\$m - million dollars
doz - dozen
no. - number
g - gram
na - not available
ha - hectare

SAR - Special Administrative Region
GST - Goods & Services Tax
sq km - square kilometres
km - kilometres
\$ - dollars
m³ - cubic metres
% - per cent
'000 - thousand



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